

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An edge-illuminated light housing comprising:

5 a base

a shelf mounted on said base, said shelf of light transmissive material adapted to internally reflect light, said shelf containing a conical bore in an upper surface thereof, said conical bore opening and diverging upwardly so as to form a generally radially  
10 uniform substantially forty-five degree light reflective surface,

a light source mounted in said base under said conical bore, said light source directing light upwardly so as to impinge said conical bore, said light thereby reflected radially outwardly of said conical bore, along and within said shelf,  
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said shelf having at least one perimeter edge angled at a reflective angle so as to reflect the light travelling along and within said shelf upwardly from said at least one perimeter edge,  
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a light transmissive housing mounted on said shelf, said housing having light transmissive walls of light transmissive material adapted to internally reflect light and at least one lower edge of said walls shaped for conformal mating onto said at least one perimeter edge to thereby allow transmission of the light reflected upwardly from said at least one perimeter edge into and along a light path within said walls of said housing,  
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said walls of said housing having light diffusing edges in, and interrupting, the light path so as to diffuse light outwardly of said housing only along said light diffusing edges to thereby define a lit shape as seen by a user substantially transparently supported by said housing.

2. The device of claim 1 wherein said housing is a pyramid-shape.
3. The device of claim 2 wherein said pyramid is a right regular pyramid.
- 5 4. The device of claim 2 wherein said base is a frusto-pyramidal shape.
5. The device of claim 1 wherein said walls and said shelf are of acrylic sheet.
- 10 6. The device of claim 1 wherein said reflective angle is substantially twenty-six degrees from the vertical.
7. The device of claim 1 wherein said base also includes walls made of said light transmissive material so as to transmit any light reflected downwardly from said at least one perimeter edge, said walls of said base also having light diffusing edges interrupting a light path of the light reflected from the at least one perimeter edge.
- 15 8. The device of claim 7 wherein said walls of said base are mirrored.
- 20 9. The device of claim 1 wherein said light source includes a light emitting diode.
10. The device of claim 9 further comprising a light directing window mounted between said conical bore and said light emitting diode.
- 25 11. The device of claim 10 wherein said window is a hemispherical dome co-axial with said bore, said dome being domed over so as to open downwardly over said light source.

12. The device of claim 1 wherein said light diffusing edges include gaps between portions of said walls of said housing.

13. The device of claim 1 wherein said walls include planar sheets.

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14. The device of claim 13 wherein said light diffusing edges include gaps between said sheets.

15. The device of claim 1 wherein said shelf is planar.

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16. The device of claim 15 wherein said shelf includes a light transmissive lip formed over said at least one perimeter edge.

17. The device of claim 16 wherein said lip is defined by a recess formed around said at least one perimeter edge.

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18. The device of claim 1 wherein said shelf is adapted to support over said conical bore an artifact to be highlighted by being lit from beneath.

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19. The device of claim 18 wherein said artefact is a gemstone.

20. The device of claim 18 wherein said conical bore is positioned substantially in the center of said shelf.

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